Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (original) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment of a disease associated with the excess of coupling factor-6 (CF6) in the blood which comprises a CF6 inhibitor as the active ingredient.

Claim 2. (original) The pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 1 wherein said CF6 inhibitor is a CF6 secretion inhibitory substance or a CF6 antagonist.

Claim 3. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 1 wherein said disease associated with the excess of CF6 in the blood is heart infarction, angina pectoris, heart failure, pulmonary hypertension, hypertension, cerebrovascular disorder, arteriosclerosis obliterans, arteriosclerosis, hyperlipelflia, diabetes, bronchial disease, stomach ulcer, eclampsia of pregnancy, hemolytic-uremic syndrome or thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura.

Claim 4. (original) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment of a disease associated with the shortage of CF6 in the blood which comprises a CF6 activator or CF6 as the active ingredient.

Claim 5. (original) The pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 4 wherein said CF6 activator is a CF6 secretion accelerating substance or a CF6 agonist.

Claim 6. (previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 4 wherein said disease associated with the shortage of CF6 in the blood is an inflammatory disease such as brain infarction, acute pancreatitis, asthma, ARDS or rheumatoid arthritis.

Claim 7. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment of a disease associated with the shortage of PGI_2 and/or a disease associated with the attenuation of the Ca^{2+}-dependent cytoplasmic PLA_2 ($cPLA_2$) hypofunction, which comprises a CF6 inhibitor as the active ingredient.

Claim 8. (original) The pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 7 wherein said CF6 inhibitor is a CF6 secretion inhibitory substance or a CF6 antagonist.

Claim 9. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 7 wherein said disease associated with the shortage of PGI_2 and/or the disease associated with the the $cPLA_2$ hypofunction is heart infarction, angina pectoris, heart failure, pulmonary hypertension, hypertension, cerebrovascular disorder, arteriosclerosis obliterans, arteriosclerosis, hyperlipemia, diabetes, bronchial disease, stomach ulcer, eclampsia of pregnancy, hemolytic-uremic syndrome or thrombocytopenic purpura.

Claim 10. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment of a disease associated with the excess of PGI_2 and/or a disease associated with the $cPLA_2$ hyperfunction, which comprises a CF6 activator or CF6 as the active ingredient.

Claim 11. (original) The pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 10 wherein said CF6 activator is a CF6 secretion accelerating substance or a CF6 agonist.

Claim 12. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or the treatment as claimed in claim 10 wherein said disease associated with the excess of PGI_2 and/or a disease associated with the $cPLA_2$ hyperfunction is an inflammatory disease such as brain infarction, acute pancreatitis, asthma, ARDS or rheumatoid arthritis.

Claim 13. (currently amended) A method of diagnosing a disease associated with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood, ~~characterized in that the CF6 level in a collected blood sample is measured~~ which comprises the CF6 level in a collected blood sample being measured by use of a diagnostic aid comprising an anti-CF6 antibody.

Claim 14. (original) A diagnostic aid comprising an anti-CF6 antibody which is used in a method of diagnosing a disease associated with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood, characterized in that the CF6 level in a

collected blood sample is measured.

Claim 15. (original) The diagnostic aid as claimed in claim 14 wherein said anti-CF6 antibody is prepared by using the whole human CF6 (SEQ ID NO:1) or rat CF6 (SEQ ID NO:2) or a part thereof as an antigen.

Claim 16. (original) A method of producing CF6 or a polypeptide which is a part thereof by using gene recombination techniques, which comprises culturing a host having been transformed by a vector comprising a DNA encoding a chimeric protein wherein a polynucleotide sequence encoding said CF6 or a partial polypeptide thereof is bonded to a protective peptide via a polynucleotide sequence encoding an enterokinase recognition site at the N-terminus, and treating the thus obtained chimeric protein with enterokinase to thereby give CF6 or the partial polypeptide thereof.

Claim 17. (previously presented) A diagnostic method of judging the susceptibility to a disease associated with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood, which involves the step of determining the presence/absence of a mutation in a gene sequence in the CF6 gene region in the genome of a subject.

Claim 19. (previously presented) The diagnostic method as claimed in claim 17 wherein said disease with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood is a disease associated with the $cPLA_2$ hyperfunction or the $cPLA_2$ hypofunction.

Claim 20. (original) The diagnostic method as claimed in claim 13 wherein said disease with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood is acute heart infarction.

Claim 21. (new) A method according to claim 13 wherein said anti-CF6 antibody is prepared by using the whole human CF6 (SEQ ID NO:1) or rat CF6 (SEQ ID NO:2) or a part thereof as an antigen.

Claim 22. (new) A method of diagnosing a disease associated with an increase or decrease in the CF6 level in the blood, which comprises the CF6 level in a collected blood sample being measured by use of an anti-CF6 antibody.

Claim 23. (new) A method according to claim 22 wherein said anti-CF6 antibody is prepared by using the whole human CF6 (SEQ ID NO:1) or rat CF6 (SEQ ID NO:2) or a part thereof as an antigen.